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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN: 0648-XC328

Fisheries of the Gulf of Mexico; Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR);

Assessment Process Webinar for Gulf of Mexico Spanish Mackerel and Cobia

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of SEDAR 28 Gulf of Mexico Spanish mackerel and cobia assessment

webinar.

SUMMARY: The SEDAR 28 assessment of the Gulf of Mexico Spanish mackerel and cobia

fisheries will consist of a series of workshops and supplemental webinars. This notice is for a

webinar associated with the Assessment portion of the SEDAR process.

DATES: The SEDAR 28 Assessment Workshop Webinar will be held on November 26, 2012,

from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. EDT. The established time may be adjusted as necessary to

accommodate the timely completion of discussion relevant to the assessment process. Such

adjustments may result in the meeting being extended from, or completed prior to, the times

established by this notice.

ADDRESSES: The webinar will be held via a GoToMeeting Webinar Conference. The webinar

is open to members of the public. Those interested in participating should contact Ryan Rindone

at SEDAR (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT) to request an invitation

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providing webinar access information. Please request meeting information at least 24 hours in advance.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ryan Rindone, SEDAR Coordinator, 2203 N Lois Ave, Suite 1100, Tampa FL 33607; telephone: (813) 348-1630; e-mail: ryan.rindone@gulfcouncil.org

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (GMFMC), in conjunction with NOAA Fisheries, has implemented the Southeast Data, Assessment and Review (SEDAR) process, a multi-step method for determining the status of fish stocks in the Southeast Region. SEDAR is a three-step process including: (1) Data Workshop; (2) Assessment Process, including a workshop and webinars; and (3) Review Workshop. The product of the Data Workshop is a data report which compiles and evaluates potential datasets and recommends which datasets are appropriate for assessment analyses. The product of the Assessment Process is a stock assessment report which describes the fisheries, evaluates the status of the stock, estimates biological benchmarks, projects future population conditions, and recommends research and monitoring needs. The assessment is independently peer reviewed at the Review Workshop. The product of the Review Workshop is a summary documenting panel opinions regarding the strengths and weaknesses of the stock assessment and input data. Participants for SEDAR Workshops are appointed by the GMFMC, NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office, and the NOAA Southeast Fisheries Science Center. Participants include: data collectors and database managers; stock assessment scientists, biologists, and researchers; constituency representatives including fishermen, environmentalists, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs); international experts; and staff of Councils, Commissions, and state and federal agencies.

SEDAR 28 Assessment Workshop Webinar:

Panelists will continue deliberations and discussions regarding modeling methodologies

for the Gulf of Mexico Spanish mackerel and cobia fisheries.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids should

be directed to the Council office (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT) at least 10

business days prior to the meeting.

Dated: November 1, 2012.

Tracey L. Thompson,

Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries

Service.

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